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A Short

DISCOURSE

Of the

Riſe, Nature, and Management

OF THE

Small-POX,

And all

Putrid FEVERS.

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Occaſioned by the Death of our Late

Incomparable QUEEN.

Together with a Philoſophical Account of an Excellent REMEDY for theſe and many other Diſeaſes.

By T. Byfield, M. D. *and Fellow of the Colledge of Phyſitians in* Dublin.

LONDON, Printed for *John Harris* at the *Harrow* in the *Poultry*. MDCXCV.

Price Six Pence.

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A

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Of the

Small-Pox, &c.

OUR late *Universal Loss*, as it has given opportunity to many Reverend, Learned and Ingenious Persons to oblige the World with the just Character of this Great and Good *PRINCESS*, than whom, these Nations in many Ages have not afforded a Nobler Subject: So for the sake of all those who are yet to run the Risque of this *Distemper* for their Lives; that the lesser Barks may happily avoid those Rocks, on which the *Royal Soveraign* was lost, I shall with all plainness and brevity give an account of the Rise and Nature of the *Small-Pox*, and all Putrid Feavers, for if that be not throughly understood, per-

ſons are liable to innumerable Errours and Miſtakes, which too oft (God knows) prove fatal to thoſe they are concern'd about.

I very well know what I have to ſay is unuſual, but ſince it is moſt true; for I take not theſe Notions on Truſt but Tryal. I confeſs I can't but deeply regret the World was not better acquainted with what I now offer to their ſerious Conſideration before the Glory of our Age was paſt receiving any Advantage by it.

But to proceed: The very *Hypotheſis* of my Diſcourſe is this; That the Venom of theſe *Diſtempers* is of a *Sulphureous* and *Viſcous* Nature, and being ſo, there is but one way to Expel or overcome it; all other Experiments being not only altogether uſeleſs, but highly injurious.

Thoſe that have taken the pains to enquire into the Cauſes of things, have found that *Sulphurs* are both the *Life* and *Venom* of Bodies.

The firſt of the Nature of *Light*, ſo rarified that 'tis not perceptible, but by its Effects, ſome of which are theſe, it *Tinctures* the Blood in which is its chief Reſidence, it Irradiates and enlivens the whole Body, every part of which is animated by it: If it be ſuppreſt, Diſeaſes prevail; if aſſiſted it has power ſufficient to work them off; if ex-

extinguiſht, Death neceſſarily and inevitably follows, for 'tis the *Animal Soul.*

The other *Sulphureity* is of a far different nature, the Matter out of which all *Fiery Diſeaſes* are ſhap't; 'tis *Crude*, *Viſcous*, *Corroſive* and *Malign*; yet Nature deals well enough with it, throwing it off continually by her proper Paſſages; till by ſome accident or other they are obſtructed, being pent up it returns, and being a more materiated *Fire*, feeds on the groſs indigeſted humours, aſſimilating to its likeneſs whatever it lays hold on, and thus it grows more Corporeal, Denſe, and a potent Venom; inſinuating its Contra-natural Heat into the whole Maſs of Blood, which is thereby immediately inflam'd and corrupted: And according to the quantity and Venemous quality of this unnatural Fire, the Diſtemper terminates in a *Fever* leſs or more Malignant; or in *Small-Pox*, *Meaſles*, &c.

The Spirit of Life, not able to keep Houſe with this Gueſt, there ariſes a terrible Contention; and ſince on the deciſion of this Quarrel no leſs than Life depends, a Fundamental Knowlege is here moſt neceſſary, not only of the Cauſe, but of the Nature of the Cauſe; ſince it produces a clear Judgment, and a certainty in Practice:

Whereas when People Act in the dark they are always at a loſs, and know not to what they owe the ſucceſs or misfortune that befals 'em: But trying many Experiments the poor Patients oftimes, as their laſt Refuge, are forc't into the cold Arms of Death, the only ſhelter from ſo many Calamities.

To my Purpoſe; this Venom being, as I ſaid before, *Sulphureous* and *Viſcous*, 'tis further requiſite to know the Nature of this Sulphureous Viſcoſity, ſince 'tis eaſie to deal with what we underſtand.

Now in few Words, the Nature of ſuch Bodies is at firſt to aſcend in the form of a light and thin Vapour, which unduly detain'd grows more ponderous, groſs and corporal, and then moſt difficult to be expel'd, till by ſome inward Agent it be again rarified into the form of a Vapour. And this Task the Spirit of Life only is able to perform: Tho' at preſent, being overpower'd by theſe Sulphureous Miſts and Fogs, it lies like the *Sun* behind a thick Cloud unable to expand its Beams: But when it receives auxiliary Force by proper Cordials of a temperate and lively Nature, with eaſe it drives out this Intruder, and reſtores the Body to its former Vigour and ſtrength. For do

not

not miſtake, and think that Cordials alone do this, 'tis impoſſible. And this is the reaſon why compaſſionate Ladies, Nurſes and old Women, whom Experience only makes Wiſe, often ſerve the Intention of Nature by promoting her Deſign, tho' by plain and Ordinary Means, which refreſh the Animal Spirits, and enable them to go through their Task. Yet there is a vaſt difference in Cordials and things of that Nature given in this caſe; for that only is a true Medicine which is ſo qualified that it chears the *Spirits*, expels the *Diſtemper*, and at the ſame time abates the Fever; nay carries off a great part of the Malignity inſenſibly through the Pores, which would have turn'd to *Small-Pox*, and tho' not an *Opiate*, gives an Enjoyment not to be underſtood, but by thoſe that feel it. And as *Opiates* always make dull, ſtupid and Stomach ſick; ſo this makes brisk, lively and cheerful; and yet when the time of reſt comes, cauſes the Sleep to be ſound and ſweet.

And now I'm oblig'd to ſhow the uſeleſsneſs and danger of other Methods: And ſince *Bleeding* is the firſt thing commonly preſcrib'd, I ſhall begin with that, and do ſolemnly proteſt, it is my Opinion, that in this Diſtemper there is no more occaſion for a *Chyrurgion* than there is for

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a *Bone-ſetter*; nor is it only uſeleſs, but highly dangerous; for when the Blood is in a great Ferment in order to throw off what ever is obnoxious, at that time to let any of it out, is as if we ſhould do ſo to Liquors in Fermentation, which every Body knows would hinder their Working over; to which there is required a fullneſs.

To fat People 'tis more pernicious, their Natures are not ſo fiery, but more apt to receive a check, and have the Venom congeal'd before it reaches the *Superficies*; To lean hotter Conſtitutions 'tis leſs dangerous, tho' ſafe for neither. No fear People ſhould burſt or dye for want of outlets, every *Pore* will prove a *Portal* wide enough, when the Matter is ſufficiently rarified from within: But when the Blood is let out the empty ſpace is immediatly fill'd (for Nature admits no vacuum) with a cool thin Air, which cauſes this Vapour that is of a heavier Nature to flat, ſink, and fall back on the Vitals, of which an undeniable Proof is the depreſſion of the Spirits, and ſick Qualms of dangerous conſequence, if immediate relief be not given. Nor is this all, for the Blood as I ſaid before, being the very Manſion of the Spirit of Life, as the Scripture it ſelf bears Witneſs, you part with your deareſt Friend, under pretence of expelling an Enemy, which yet you can never

do

do this way, tho' you ſhould draw it half out; no more than you can fine thick muddy Liquors by ſuch unlikely Experiments; For what's left is as bad ſtill. But we daily ſee when by a lively Principle within they have work't out and thrown off all that is of a contrary Nature, they fine and grow clear, without any more adoe, and then are at reſt, as all *Agents* are when they have attained their end.

Another common Practice is *Bliſtering* and *Sweating*, which tho' not quite ſo bad, are yet without uſe, but not without danger. For as it is impoſſible to draw out inward fiery Venoms (unleſs they were beforehand mounted near the Skin) by an outward Application, which only attracts Watry Subſtances: So conſidering this Diſtemper as ſuch, a fiery Venom, 'tis hereby depriv'd of the Moiſture neceſſary for its Latitude and Allay, in both which reſpects 'tis of vaſt concern to keep it within, that joining with the heat or unnatural fire, they may between them form an *Air*, and ſo riſe with eaſe and ſafety to the *Patient*; And being thus temper'd and allay'd they are generally of a large ſort, that don't leave deep Marks. Whereas, were the the Moiſture drawn off, as the Heat wou'd grow violently intenſe, ſo neither

would it (without great force) breath out: But circulate and prey on all it finds within, to the utter extinction of the Lamp of Life.

I know the general Incentive both to *Blood-letting* and *Bliſtering*, is that the *Fever* is high, and they fear it may get into the Head, and theſe are of great uſe to prevent it; as alſo to hinder ſuch a number of *Small-Pox* from coming out.

I grant indeed there is a likelyhood of theſe *Sulphureous Fumes* in their riſing, to get into the Head, nay of making the Patient talk idly too, for they are of an intoxicating Nature, but of no more Danger than the *Fumes* of Wine, provided no Errour be committed to make them ſtrike back. For when they come to the *Superfices* of the Skin, the *Watry* and more *Aerial* Part, which as a *Vehicle* helpt it thither, eaſily paſſing through the Pores Wings away; and the other being *Sulphureous* and groſs, receiving a check from the Air, ſettles there in its own *Fiery form*, and then the Head is clear and ſettled, the Spirits brisk and lively, the Appetite pretty good, and the Fever abated.

As for the other Advantage pretended of preſerving a good Face, I have more than once obſerv'd this: That when *Phyſitians* by *Drawing-Blood*,

or

or giving cooling things, &c. have ſunk the Spirits, and hinder'd the kindly coming out, which is never ſo well as at Natures firſt attempt, the Patient on the return of the Venom, growing Heart-ſick and oppreſt almoſt to Death, to gain the Point they have loſt, they have been forc't to double their Files, and heap *Cordial* upon *Cordial*, which being Common Preparations, and ſo not diveſted of their own unnatural heat, as they ought to be, have increaſed the Fever, and drove out more than can well be maintained: And theſe Pit moſt, are a very ſmal ſort, and of great virulency and danger. Becauſe Nature now having done her utmoſt, if ſhe be baffled once more, a thouſand to one reſigns.

But that I may comprize all in few words, whatever rebates, drives back, ſtupifies, dejects, overcools, makes great diſcharges of any kind; or on the other hand, whatever over-heats, drives out too forcibly, and fires the Spirits, is directly contrary to theſe Diſtempers, which ought ſo to be manag'd, that the Natural, not Unnatural Heat, be aſſiſted, the former being the very Agent that muſt do the Work; which if allow'd: A Medicine rightly qualifi'd ought to have theſe properties; That it be ſtript of all falſe fire, which

would assist and heighten the Distemper. That instead thereof it be plentifully furnisht with the Salubrious Principles of Life and Sanity, readily joyning in this extremity with that *Vital Spark* within us; That it be of Ability to clear the first passages insensibly in the Operation; yet most sensibly in the Effect: For this is no time for Violent Means: That it likewise be endow'd with a Power to compose and quiet the Spirits, by bringing to equality and unity the Principles which are at Variance: And not as *Opiats* (which stupifying the Senses for a while) detain and tye down, not only the Spirits, but the Distemper, hindring its going off in its proper season, and Nature from assisting; so that when its Somniferous Virtue is spent, you find you have lost time, the Patient only growing sensibly weaker, but the Distemper remaining in its full Vigor and more Fatal.) And that in a word, by its innate Virtue (with God's blessing) it can bring you safe thro' this dangerous Disease to your desir'd Health, and a more-than ordinary Strength; and such a Medicine is the *Panacea*, of which the following Discourse Treats.

Some

Some Account of a Univerſal Remedy.

THE Contemplation of Man's Body (tho' *Dead*) in its wonderful Structure by Anatomical Diſplay is a curious View: But the conſideration of him alive in his vital Form and Spring of Action enlivening the whole, is a more Elegant Review.

'Tis to my purpoſe at preſent to behold him inform'd with the principle of Cœleſtial Fire, enkindling vital *Airs*, and ſtretching 'em thro' the whole Circumference, promoting thereby an animal Nouriſhing Heat to every Organ of the Body, and by a Magnetick Love, panting after the Univerſal Breath of the World, and ſucking thro' the Medium of the *Air*, a continued Reparation of Enlivening Beams to his *Central Spirit*, from the Fountain of Life and Form, the *Sun*.

Having thus United the Leſſer to the greater World, by joyning breath to breath, my deſign is to ſhew how this inbred Fire is maintain'd, may be enlarg'd, and when perverted and wrought into a deſtructive Heat and Fire againſt Nature, by Art, may be reclaim'd to an Oleoſe, Soft, Nouriſhing Heat, from its harſh, inrag'd conſuming Fire.

But

But before I proceed, I muſt take care to keep under the warm influences of the *Sun*, and regard him as the common Parent of us all, and the Soul of the World, a Globe of Central Sulphur Glorioufly Illuminating dark and ſhady Bodies (I had almoſt ſaid Underſtandings too) whoſe Maſculine Principle, endow'd with an hidden Fecundity beſtows quickening Virtues on all the ſcatter'd Natures of the Earth, whereby numberleſs Efficacies and vital Breathings are convey'd thro' Spiritual Channels, for the avoiding Corruption, and repleniſhing them with *Light*, Adequate to that Tincture of *Light* which powerfully informs mixt Bodies: So that *He* may truly be call'd the *Heart* of the Univerſe, deriving Life to all parts, and impregnating decaying Nature with new Vitality.

This Magazeen of the Empyrean Heaven, where the *Light* firſt ſeiz'd upon matter, fills with Light and Life, the ſoft and yeilding Natures of the *Air*, which cannot be ſuppos'd a nothing, or an empty ſpace, but an Eſſential Body of its own, admitting of great Powers and Virtues, where the matter is ſwallow'd up by its Form, and Tranſlated into a Nature almoſt Spiritual. For where Form and Matter meet in equal poiſe or juſt Equality,

lity, the matter's reſcu'd from all Blemiſhes and Accidents, and freed in a wonderful manner from Infection and Corruption.

The *Air* thus richly ſtor'd with beams of Life and Univerſal Sperm ſupplies the various kinds of being on the Earth, according to the ſtrength of their Specifick Magnets. And it does ſo ſuperabound in Principles, they cannot take em off her hands, and ſhe ſo luſts to be Imbodied, that where there's an aptneſs to Congelation, ſhe'll ſtrike the form of her *Spiritual Eſſence*: As I have ſtrictly obſerv'd the Rime in an Hoar-Froſty Morn exactly ſhot into *Stiria*, which are the Signatures of abounding Volatiles.

And now 'tis time to derive this flowing Bounty to the Sons of Men, who lift up their Heads to Heaven for Life and Breath, and all things, and well they may; for I know not where elſe they'l feed their vital Flame: Since nothing more humours the *Tincture of Life* in Man, or his animal Fire, than the Nutritive beams from the *Sun*.

For that Spark of Original *Sulphur* which tranſmutes into Redneſs, the Maſs of Blood is the Spring of Natural Fire and radical Moiſture, and the *Sun* in the little World, *Man*; diſcenter'd from the

the great *Luminary*: But held in Life by the intercourſe of large Breathings, whereby he repairs his Store from that inexhauſted Fountain.

In vain then ſhall I look for a fit Remedy amidſt the Domeſtick or Exotick Drugs for Man. By Food he may, and muſt ſupply a *Fæcunda Terra*, but this is but dunging the Ground, by Reſpiration he muſt ſupport his *Vital Air*.

Having thus pointed out the Nobleſt Principle of Life in Man, I wou'd give a little aim at a ſuitable Medicine adequate thereto, as the moſt apt to repair and ſet him right when decay'd or over-power'd; and of ſuch a Nature are the undetermin'd Sulphureous Sparks of the Univerſe collected at certain Seaſons of the year, when the *Air* is richly impregnated: but the manner of attracting, and further knowledg of what is taken, together with the Artful handling of the matter are too curious and troubleſome Niceties. For who wou'd take the pains to reunite Atoms, and conſult the Poiſe ſo ſtrictly in the cotempering of Principles, as juſt to give the Dominion to a living Sulphur: but ſuch a temperament obtain'd becomes a Medicine Spiritually fixt, and a noble Preſervative againſt the Spirit of Diſeaſes, and its conſequent Materiation by contact with material Evils.

Thus our internal *Air* maintain'd (by Art upon Nature) free from disturbance or Venoms, is always salubrious and pleasant.

It plain enough appears, that the truest Medicine for the Life of Man is a well exalted *Sulphur*, whereby it becomes *Spiritualiz'd*, not *Volatiliz'd*. But betwixt these two words lies seven years labour, with brains too. 'Tis sufficient then to *suggest the Nature of it*, that it may appear at least harmless.

Since I assum'd this Notion of *Sulphur*, as the most Essential Principle of Life, I have revolv'd again and again the most powerful Specifick Sulphurs, especially those of the Mineral Nature, which are difficultly enough obtain'd in *Purity*, and notwithstanding *Art*, they will retain some Portion of *their Specifick Venoms*, which are not to be destroy'd but by the Death of the *Species*: So strongly is Nature determin'd to the preservation of her *Kind*. I could Instance in many of 'em that retain very *Churlish Qualities* after all the pretended Art about them, such as *Vomiting*, *Purging*, *Sweating*, &c. meerly as Venemous to our *Bodies*, tho they are banter'd off, as *having a Conteſt only with Offending Humours*. I have us'd 'em in my Practice, and know as well what they are, and can do, as another.

After abundance of Experiments and Tryals, for the *attaining of Noble Pleasant Medicines:* I must confess, I think my self not a little Fortunate in my *Art of drawing down* from *the Sun* and *Air* plenty of *illuminated Sulphurs*, and in my Skill of *ordering 'em* so as to result in the most effectual and pleasant *Remedy*; which is *Preservative*, *Curative* and *Restorative*, able at once to season the whole Fountain, so as to cleanse it self and all its streams. Far unlike to *other Medicines*, which are reputed Good for some *One Disease*, and that mistaken, *kill* instead of *cure*. But *this Medicine* (dilated in an *appropriate Vehicle*,) is render'd dispensable to all Persons, under any Circumstances, and as salubrious as the most refin'd *Air*. And this I call my *Panacea*, which I think abundantly more *difficult to make*, than to make it appear to be of such General Use, as the Nature of the Thing imports, and the Experience of it can attest. But I'le not much concern my self *to gain Proselytes*. I would have it valu'd only at the *Rate of its Real worth*, and my self *not too much undervalu'd* for being *the Author of it*.

Universal Matter once *obtain'd*, may be Reasonably *thought productive* of a *Universal Remedy*. Now no *passive actuated matter is undetermin'd*, and I have al-

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already declar'd *against Specifick*s, and *Dead Matter* is not for my turn. The *Living*, *Permanent*, *Active Matter of the World* is my Subject, which (after 'tis render'd fusible by *Art*) penetrates the very *Center of Life*, bringing with it the Riches of Superiour Orbs, Generously enriching Nature's Store with *Beams of Life* and *Balmy Fire*, enlarging her *Magnetick Virtue*; whereby she *Vigorously* attracts both *Air* and *Common Food*, assimilating them to her wholsom Nature. Hereby tender *Stamina Vitæ* become Robust, the body haile and strong, quick and bright, able to dispel diseasie Forms, and resist their first Attempts. For the due Feeding, and Maintaining the Animal fire in its Resplendent Lustre, at once forbids all Jars, Discords, False Fire, *&c.* and gives a Free Enjoyment of the body in all its necessary and pleasant Actions.

Truly to sweeten, unite and strengthen the Mass of Blood, is of huge Advantage: And 'tis not Vomiting, Purging, nor Steel, nor Alkalisate Powders, nor washing with Waters will do the Business: A Course of pure *Air*, with Temperance, bids fairer, and many are relieved thereby.

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But to reſtore *Eſſential Sulphur*, the Origin of the Tincture of the Blood, and ſubdue fixt Salts, inferring Corroſive Fires, and renew and increaſe a ſweet Vital *Air*, is the Work rather of a *Philoſopher* than a *Phiſician*. For the doing of all which this *Panacea* is a Compleat Medicine, altogether Philoſophical, and an entire *Diſpenſatory*.

Having now Regal'd the Spirits with this lively Mellow Remedy; from ſo good a ſtock we may derive freſh Vigour to the branches, Plumpneſs to the whole, and cauſe every part to rejoyce with 'em; for their Nouriſhment depends ſo much on a wholeſome Fountain, that Health or Diſeaſes are communicated to 'em according to the decay or ſtrength, Purity or Impurity of it. And what a *Catalogue of Diſtempers* is aſſign'd to the ſundry *Organs of the Body*, and Elaborate Methods and Medicines for their Cure? When as a well inform'd *Principle of Life*, benignly darts at once kind Rays throughout the whole, aſſiſting with proper Vigour the Faculties, duely to ſeparate what ought to be diſcharg'd through the cleanſing *Ducts*, and refine and purifie what ſhould be retain'd.

What

What need then is there to run out the Ordure by Violent Purgatives, and the wholeſome Juices too, ſharpened and envenom'd firſt by Phyſick, even to the Excoriation of Bowels, and damage of the adjacent parts? Many are miſtaken in this Point, and many take the Advantage of it. The blood is not at all purified thereby, nor ſweetened; but often exaſperated and fretted by ſuch Contraries. Beſides, the bowels well fill'd keep out *Wind*, *Cholicks*, *Gripes*, *Twiſtings*, and many more *Diſorders*: And what Hurt in the Congeſtion of wholeſome Food?

It ſeems to be the deſign of Nature, by the *Length*, *Windings* and *Poſition of the Guts* in ſuch order, that there ſhould be due Retentions. *Digeſtion in* Dung we that experiment by Heats, know to be the Trueſt and moſt Natural. The Scituation then of the Great Gut call'd *Colon*, the laſt but one, and the Amaſsment of the *Feces* in it, lying under the *Great Organs* of *Digeſtion and Separation*, ſhew that Nature had a deſign from that *warm bed* to comfort and aſſiſt the Neighbouring *Viſcera*.

For ſuch as are always flurting and jerking their bowels with *purging Phyſick*, leſs than one yard of

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a ſtrait Gut (from the *Pylorus* to the *Anus*) had been better for them. Nevertheleſs, I don't ſay, but diſcreet Evacuations, at ſome times, are truely Neceſſary for ſome, and the *Drinking of Cleanſing Waters*, in their Seaſons, as *Epſom*, *Northhall*, &c.

The *Danger* of *Vomits*, *Diaphoreticks*, *Bliſters*, *Salivations*, *improper Bleedings*, *Opiates*, *internal Stiptick Medicines*, &c. ought to be diſcover'd; but I'le paſs 'em by at preſent; for the *very thoughts of 'em* Jar my Nerves.

Since I can with this Remedy keep the ſtomach and bowels clean from *Choler*, *Flegm* and *Wind*, and make a quick and clean *Digeſtion*, what needs *Vomiting and Purging*? 'Twill cauſe a Generous Tranſpiration; No occaſion then to melt and waſte the *Nouriſhing Juices* with *Provokers* of *Sweats*, ſometimes to a Colliquation, Faintneſs and *Death*. 'Twill cleanſe and *ſtrengthen* the *Glands*, firſt ſeparate flowing and unclean Seroſities, then keep 'em Tite from an Overflowing: forbear to ſwell, inflame and corrupt 'em by *Salivation* with *Mercury*; or to diſtort Nature by forcing a little water through the Skin with *Bliſters*.

And

And if this proves an *Antiferment*, 'twill often ſave the Hazard of *Bleeding* in many *Diſeaſes.*

It helps to ſound and undiſturbed ſleep; No Uſe then of *Opium.* It reconciles great diſorders, and always is on Nature's ſide; No need then of *Iron Chains* to bind an Enemy in your breaſt. While ſome lay on with *Vomit*, *Purge*, *Bliſter*, *Clyſter*, *Helter*, *Skelter*, *blowing up*, *pulling down*, like the *Inſurancers from Fire*, I can deal with Life ſo ſubtily, as to touch her to the quick; yet ſo kindly, that inſtead of crying *Oh!* I ſweetly feed her Vital Flame, and give freſh Vigour to her *Languiſhing* or *Fretted Spirits:* And from a Rich Store-Houſe derive 'em ſtrong and mellow to all the withering and enfeebled branches, Reconciling Feuds and Quarrels by giving ſatisfaction to every diſturb'd Member of the Body. All the Juices thus enrich't, are Supple, Generous and Quick: All the parts ſupply'd with both are Agil, Plump and Strong.

I have been more than Twenty Years a Great Seeker of Medicines, and have been at Great Expence every way about 'em, and have at any Rate poſſeſs'd my ſelf of the Reputed Beſt. And I ſincerely

cerely profeſs I ſlight 'em all for this, knowing it to be a Truth in Nature and Art, and as great a Truth in Practice.

The Height of common *Chymiſtry* is to mount a Volatile Salt, that is quick, pungent and fugitive. This Medicine is no ſuch thing: But being greatly enricht with *Spiritual Sulphurs*, and retain'd by its *own Magnet*, is *permanent and fuſible*, yet *innocent and efficacious*.

But that *the deſign'd Benefit of this Diſcourſe* may not be loſt, I muſt, for the ſake of ſome perſons, deſcend to particulars.

To *Declining Age*, when the Fire abates, and Moiſture, Clouds and Cold Diſeaſes prevail, with the *Decay of Organs* by the Impoveriſhment of *Spirits*, through their often Eclips'd and declining Sun: Nothing more aptly repairs the Central Fire and Radical Moiſture; whereby not only *Diſeaſes* are diſpers'd, but the whole body is repleniſh'd with proper Nouriſhing Juices: So as to recover, in ſome meaſure, Quickneſs and Strength of Parts; at leaſt to furniſh 'em with Good Appetite, ſtrong Digeſtion, liberal Expulſion of Wind, Large and Clean Breathings, free from Clammy, Tough Humours; Clarity of Brain and Senſes, and an entire diſſipation of the Win-

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Winter Diſeaſes. So that Prolongation of Life, and pleaſant Enjoyment of it need not to be doubted, ſince God gives means thereto. Therefore to be perſwaded at Seventy to ſit quietly down with the Common Wear and Tare of Nature is more than needs: For ſuch hail Principles as could reach thither, may with timely good Repair, paſs on I know not whither.

To ſuch as are coming into the World, as well as thoſe that are going out, and bring with them hereditary Diſeaſes, or an unthriving Nature, 'tis of ſingular Advantage: For next to the benefit of being deriv'd from Parents of a ſound and ſtrong Conſtitution, there is nothing more beneficial than to convey by their firſt Food Fundamental Principles of Health, which may prove as laſting as their Lives. To be drank by the Nurſes while the Children ſuck.

'Tis a Compleat Medicine to ſuch as have a general diſorder, or decay of body and ſpirits, and know not where to lay the blame.

For *Conſumptive Perſons*, and thoſe endangered by it, it aptly ſuits all their Complaints, and needs no Second, provided there be a proper Regimen, and careful avoiding of injurious things. For in a *Hectick* the blood having ſuffered a *great diſſoluti-*

on and ſeparation, the *Spirits* of it are turned into a kind of *Wildfire*, which flies about, and wanting allay, burns and conſumes a perſon almoſt to Nothing. Now this excellent Medicine here becomes a *Peace-maker*, ſweetly attracting back again (by Vertue of its *Magnetick* Quality) the diſperſed Spirits; and by reaſon of its likeneſs to the moſt conſtituent parts of the blood, joyns it again, and determines its Action within its own proper Sphere. And then all things go well, and Symptoms diſappear. Thus this *Diſtemper*, commonly accounted incurable, is forc'd to yeild the Victory to this ſalutiferous Remedy.

In every *Scorbutick Diſtemper* 'tis very available, and acts as variouſly as the Scorbutick Form is various; for being a Medicine truly Natural, Nature can uſe it any way to her own benefit. And it is ſo Fortunate, that it cannot be taken to amend the blood, but 'twill into the bargain communicate Health and Vigour to all the parts of the body.

For *Fevers* of all ſorts, eſpecially malignant, 'tis incomparable. Whereas in the uſe of other Medicines, theſe Diſtempers hold a conſiderable time, with imminent danger, and often end in Death; I have many a time, with great pleaſure, beheld this

this Noble Medicine ſurpriſing us with its admirable Effects; taking off common *Fevers* in a few Days; ſometimes in 24 Hours totally. And as for *malignant Fevers*, it ſecures the Vitals from being overcome by their Venom; and keeps 'em up through the whole Courſe of their ſickneſs, from *running very low*.

Here I omit to account for the *Small-Pox*, becauſe of the Preceeding *Diſcourſe*. Yet I may ſay thus much; That I have had five Patients at one time ſick of the *Small-Pox*, and through the bleſſing of God on this Medicine, not one miſcarried; altho I did *not viſit* after they were out (having never had 'em my ſelf) but only gave directions to thoſe who attended 'em.

I might mention the ſeveral Concerns of Women and Virgins, to whom I abundantly diſpenſe it: But here I'le only particularize that reſtleſs and uneaſie diſtemper of *Vapours*, for which 'tis valuable, by removing the Cauſe, in reducing the parts diſtended, and expelling thoſe Fumes that fly upwards.

I might add, how it obliges Women in Labour and Lying-in, aſſiſting in all their Circumſtances, and is the moſt Natural Cordial.

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The bare Experience of it for *Cholicks*, *Cholical Diſpoſitions*, and *tender Bowels*; how it recovers the ſtrength of *Fibers*, gives a Liberal Expulſion of Wind, and makes the Belly always eaſie; were a ſufficient Character.

For *melancholy people*, ſuch as are *Dropſical*, *ſhort-breath'd*, *Aſthmatical*, *Paralytick*, *Lethargical*, *Apoplectick*, and many others, as tho I had nam'd them all; 'tis abundantly qualify'd. But I chuſe rather to *nulliſie* than enumerate Diſeaſes.

'Tis as eaſie and pleaſant to take as Canary, and may be us'd as Entertainment, all the while receiving health and pleaſure. No one can injure himſelf with it. And 'tis ſo looſe and free from Phyſical Rules and Hours, that it ought not to be rank't with the *unpleaſant Crew of Medicines*: But repoſited with the moſt Delicious Wines.

From my Houſe in
Great Carter-Lane.